

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6275

February 11, 2022

By Electronic Transmission

Mike Trimboli, President
Pat Kelleher, Executive Director
USA Hockey
1775 Bob Johnson Dr
Colorado Springs, CO 80906

Dear Mr. Trimboli and Mr. Kelleher:

I write concerning USA Hockey compliance with the Empowering Olympic, Paralympic, and Amateur Athletes Act of 2020 (“The Act”) and cooperation with the United States Center for SafeSport (“the Center”) policies and investigations.

First and foremost, Congress takes seriously all reports of abuse targeting amateur athletes by those entrusted with their training and care. Our Committee’s hearing in September of 2021 on the sexual abuse of Olympic gymnasts by a former national team physician, Lawrence Nassar, underscores this point.

With my support, Congress has enacted laws to protect amateur athletes from abuse. The Act, *see* 36 U.S.C. § 220541 *et seq.*, established safeguards to protect amateur athletes from abuse by coaches and employees in amateur sports. National governing bodies (“NGBs”) like USA Hockey have a duty to protect amateur athletes from abuse, and they must *report immediately* any reasonable suspicion of child abuse to *both* law enforcement and the Center. *See* 36 U.S.C. § 220542(a)(2)(A). The Act also gives the Center authority to investigate within each NGB allegations of abuse against amateur athletes, *see* 36 U.S.C. § 220541(a)(1).

I therefore write to remind USA Hockey of its obligations under the law. As the Nassar case exemplifies, inaction may lead to many more victims being harmed, which would be intolerable.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary

Cc: Ju’Riese Colon, Chief Executive Officer
United States Center for SafeSport